

EVANS

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February 5, 2003

Country of Origin Labeling
Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA
Attn: William T. Sessions, Associate Deputy Administrator
Stop 0249 Room 2092-S
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20250-0249

Dear Mr. Sessions:

I am a pecan producer of 4656 acres in Georgia that covers Peach, Crawford, Macon, Houston, Dooley, Dodge, Turner, Lee, Wilcox and Crisp County. I have been in agriculture for over twenty (20) years and am very much in support of the Country of Origin Labeling Bill.

It is my concern that pecans are not included in the Country of Origin Labeling. There is an increasing number of imports into the United States and it would be beneficial for the consumer to know the origin of pecans they are buying. I assume you are aware of the amount of pecans that are imported from Mexico since NAFTA.

I am writing to you for your help and support for Country of Origin Labeling on pecans sold in the United States. If given the choice, I feel the consumer would choose pecans grown in our Country over foreign grown pecans.

Thank you for your consideration with the matter.

Sincerely,



Charles B. "Chop" Evans